

# Assessment on early american literature

Life



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

In the readings, we can see how different cultures place their values on different things. Every person, whether it be a group of people that share common beliefs or just the individual themselves, all have a purpose for life. Most people would agree that without a purpose in life, then what is the point of living? But just because we can almost all agree that usually people have a purpose doesn't mean that it must be the same one. Their past and environment all have influenced in what they believe in. These readings can serve as proof that people in the past all had their different views on life and what they put their values in.

“ Before this earth existed there was only water it stretched as far as one could see and in that water there were birds and animals swimming around”. This quote from the story “ The Earth on a Turtle's Back” is a story Native Americans told to their tribes. They read these stories to express how valuable and important animals and nature was for them. The place their value on was is around them and how beautiful it is. Instead of putting the focus and core values on something that is not visible, like a God, he put their spiritual focus on the land and what's physically in front of them.

The explorers ran into many conflicts. “ The men spent three days looking for a way down to the river from the top it looked as if the water were a fathom”. The explorers spent most their time looking for looking for opportunity versus the Puritans or the Native Americans. Instead of spending their time worshipping a God or the land, they spent their time exploring and focusing their future on the success of what the land had to offer. Their main drive/motivation was wealth and potential, not preservation or salvation. Now of course some of these men probably believed in God and they

especially appreciated the land because of the potential of what it had to hold, but their main focus is what this new land had to offer.

The Puritans had a different view on life. Their focus and beliefs were all surrounded around one thing: God. “ The sovereign pleasure of God, for the present, stays his rough wind: otherwise it would come with fury, and your destruction would come like a whirlwind, and you would be like the chaff of the summer threshing floor”. In this quote, we can see how much they value their God. It basically translates to without God and his caring nature, we would all just be destroyed and left out to die. So, unlike the Native Americans, the land and nature are not their main focus because without God, there would nothing. There would be no purpose to life itself.

In conclusion, all of these types of writings are very different. A big difference is the time period as well as the location of the groups. Something all the stories have in common is the ability to tell a story. They also all had something that drove them in their life. Even though they might have had different ambitions, they still all had a purpose to their life and what they wanted to accomplish. This is what makes America great to this day.

Everyone is unique in their own way and everyone has their own way of living. That is what makes America great and diverse, something that has been happening ever since it was founded.